



NEWS RELEASE

City of Santa Barbara
Fire Department

Contact: Fire Engineer Hank Homburg
Phone: (805) 714-0106
hhomburg@santabarbaraca.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
11/7/2011

SANTA BARBARA CITY FIRE STRUCTURE FIRE

SANTA BARBARA, CA – 11/7/2011

At 11:58AM, Santa Barbara City Fire responded with Engine 4 and 5 to a reported tree fire on Portola Lane.

Engine 5 was first on scene and while investigating, found a working structure fire in a detached building behind a home. The initial response was upgraded to a structure fire response, which added an additional Engine as well as Truck 1 and a Battalion Chief.

A second detached structure behind a neighboring home and a large oak tree were also involved. A second alarm was immediately dispatched. This additional alarm adds one more Engine Company as well as the department's Hazardous Materials Unit which has the capability of refilling air bottles on extended fires.

While fighting the fire, there appeared to be some type petroleum based product involved within one of the structures. This unknown petroleum product caused more intense burning within the structure and made it more difficult for firefighters to extinguish.

The fire was contained and under control at 12:25PM. One Engine Company and Truck 1 remained on scene to assist Fire Investigators. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. There were no reported injuries to occupants or firefighters.